

Gimme Shelter

News from the Loudoun County Animal Shelter

Loudoun County Department of
Animal Care & Control

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Congrats to Animal Control



Animal Care & Control is pleased to announce that Animal Control Officer Virginia Girolami has been selected as **Animal Control Officer of the Year** by the Virginia Animal Control Association (VACA). Chief Kim Miller was also recognized for her years of contribution to VACA.

Animal Control Officer Virginia Girolami received the Jack Kent Roberts Animal Control Officer of the Year from the Virginia Animal Control Association. Virginia

was nominated by the Loudoun County Department of Animal Care and Control in recognition of her compassionate work as an Animal Control Officer.

"Virginia has worked diligently to make lives better for the animals and the people in our community. Virginia's efforts are always focused on enhancing the professionalism of the Animal Control Division. I am proud to have Virginia as one of my team members," said Deputy Chief Janette Reeve.

Officer Girolami has taken a special interest in the Department's Companion Animal Resource Effort (CARE) program. CARE provides medical care, shelter, and other necessary resources to Loudoun County residents in need. Officer Girolami has gone above and beyond to ensure CARE clients receive the special treatment that they and their animal deserve. As part of the CARE program, Virginia coordinates over 66 food deliveries for CARE clients each month.

Chief Animal Control Officer Kim Miller was recognized at the Virginia Animal Control Associations annual conference for her years of dedicated service to the Association. Chief Miller has served as a member of the Virginia Animal Control Association for 10 years. As part of participation in VACA, Chief Miller has been instrumental in enhancing state training for Virginia Animal Control Officers. She has instructed many of the classes in the Basic Animal Control Academy. This year Ms. Miller has resigned her post as Vice President of VACA. Chief Miller received a plaque of appreciation in recognition of her hard work, dedication and years of service to the Virginia Animal Control Association.

Volunteers Go Virtual

This month, the Department's volunteer program got a virtual makeover with the launch of the new **online volunteer center**.

Thanks to the new system, volunteers are able to log in online from anywhere to access their schedules, record their volunteer hours, receive important updates and send messages to each other. The new system makes it easier for

volunteers to manage their service, while also allowing for more efficient record-keeping and database management.

And, the new system also includes an online volunteer application. So if you've been thinking of donating time to the Shelter, it has never been easier to get started. Log on to www.loudoun.gov/animals and click on "Volunteers" to access the new online center. Check it out!

Next Microchip Clinic

Our next free pet microchip clinic will be on Saturday, November 10, at the Animal Shelter, from 9am- 12pm.

The microchip clinic is open to any Loudoun County resident or Loudoun County government/schools employee. Advance registration is not required.

Dogs must be leashed and cats must be in carriers. Proof of current rabies vaccination will be required for all pets 4 months of age or older.

Microchipping is a safe, permanent way of identifying pets should they ever be found by Animal Control or a veterinary office.

Visit

www.loudoun.gov/animals for details and directions.



Volunteer Pat Pierce logs in to the new online Volunteer Center at the Shelter.

Adopt-A-Senior Pet Month

November is **Adopt-a-Senior-Pet Month**, but at the Loudoun County Animal Shelter, senior pets are celebrated all year long!

Dogs and cats aged 7 years or older are very special at the Animal Shelter—they are members of our “Gray Whiskers Club”. Adopting a Gray Whiskers Club member comes with a host of benefits, including a 50% reduced adoption fee, and a Senior Starter Kit which includes a number of essentials to help the pet get started in their new home.

But there are many more benefits to owning a senior pet. Most seniors at the Shelter are already accustomed to living in a home environment, and many have basic training such as housebreaking and good manners. They are often more relaxed and easygoing, and can be a great choice for the novice pet owner.

And, while age 7 is considered “senior”, for many small dogs and cats, that is barely middle aged! Cats that are kept indoors can live well into their late teens and early 20’s. And they often remain playful and active well into their later years.

Dogs that are older are often easier to handle and require less intense exercise than their younger counterparts. And, contrary to myth, they CAN learn new tricks!

One thing that does not diminish as a pet ages is their capacity for love. Senior pets have plenty of love still to give, and can make wonderful, loyal, affectionate companions. So if you’re looking for a new pet, be sure not to overlook members of the Gray Whiskers Club. They would love to meet you!



Mason, a 10 year old neutered male, is a Gray Whiskers Club Member looking for a new home!

Employee of the Month

Joanna Coulter is October’s Employee of the Month!

Joanna has worked in Customer Service/Dispatch for 8 years. During her tenure, she has consistently shown unparalleled professionalism and delivered superior customer service no matter the situation.

Joanna manages complex and difficult situations with the utmost decorum, and is always willing to step in and assist when needed. She is a team player who

always helps her colleagues. Her positive attitude is an example to everyone, and she makes the Department a better place to be with her happy smile and infectious laughter.

Thank you Joanna for all you do!



Congratulations Joanna!

What We’re Up To...

Beastie Bazaar

Be sure to visit the annual **Beastie Bazaar** at Ayshire Farm in Upperville November 2-4. The Beastie Bazaar is an annual holiday shopping extravaganza which benefits animals in the surrounding communities. While you are at the Beastie Bazaar, expect to find unique gifts from over 50 vendors & artists, hay rides, farm animals to meet, enjoy a great selection of food, the warm scent of fresh pumpkin pie, cinnamon rolls and

of course the famous pub bread offered by The Beastie Bake Shoppe. And be sure to check out the Silent Auction, a Raffle sponsored by Tiffany’s, and of course there is always the opportunity to adopt a pet!

Animal Shelter Volunteers will be on hand on **Friday, November 2**, with information on pets looking for new homes. We hope to see you there!

For more information, visit:

www.beastiebazaar.org



Happy Halloween from all your friends at the Animal Shelter!